ISSN 1346-7565 Acta Phytotax. Geobot. 58 (1): 39-41 (2007)

A New Species of the Genus *Ophiopogon* (Asparagaceae) from Guangxi, China

MINORU N. TAMURA[1] and JIE-MEI XU[2]

[1]*Botanical Gardens, Graduate School of Science, Osaka City University, 2000 Kisaichi, Katano-shi, Osaka 576-0004, Japan;* [2]*Department of Biology, Sichuan University, Chengdu 610064, Sichuan, China*

Based on a specimen from Guangxi, China, *Ophiopogon ogisui* (Asparagaceae) is newly described. This species is similar to *O. tonkinensis*, but differs from it in the urceolate flowers with a long pedicel.

Key words: Asparagaceae, China, Guangxi, Liliaceae *sensu lato*, limestone area, new species, *Ophiopogon*, *Ophiopogon ogisui*, *Ophiopogon tonkinensis*, Vietnam

In 2006, Mr. Mikinori Ogisu collected a specimen of *Ophiopogon* Ker Gawl. similar to *O. tonkinensis* L. Rodr. (Chen & Tamura 2000) from a limestone area near the Vietnam border in Guangxi, China, at about 440 m altitude. The plant has narrowly oblong leaves with an indistinct stem. The inflorescence is a reduced panicle with relatively small purplish flowers. It differs from *O. tonkinensis*, however, in having urceolate flowers with a long pedicel. We therefore consider it to be a new species and name it *Ophiopogon ogisui*.

Ophiopogon ogisui M. N. Tamura & J. M. Xu, **sp. nov.** (Fig. 1)

Affinis *Ophiopogoni tonkinensi* est, sed pediculis valde longis et corollis urceolatis differt.

Typus. CHINA, Guangxi, Longzhu, Jinlong, Gaoshan, Banbi, ca. 440 m altitude, *Mikinori Ogisu 250* (holo- PE).

Herbs, perennial, evergreen. Rhizome vertical, 12.5 cm long, 0.7-1.2 cm in diam., reddish brown; annual growth 1.2-2.3 cm long; internodes 0.5-2.8 mm long. Roots 4-7 per year, to 4 mm in diam., pubescent, cream or beige, apically white, basally reddish brown, often branched in middle and distal portions. Foliage leaves 12, 6 per year, glabrous, basal, tufted; petiole 15-28 cm long, 3.5-4.5 mm in diam., pale green; leaf blade narrowly oblong, 16.5-21.5 cm long, 4.4-5.8 cm broad, entire, leathery, adaxially green, abaxially pale green with 35-47 whitish green longitudinal streaks, basally obtuse and decurrent on petiole, apically mucronate with blunt tip. Scape 10.6 cm long, dark purple, glabrous. Inflorescence terminal, a reduced panicle, 7.3 cm long, curved, dark purple on upper surface of axis, purplish green on lower surface of axis, glabrous, 51-flowered; bracts boat-shaped, to 1.5 cm long, centrally pale green, marginally whitish, distally purplish. Flowers hermaphroditic, urceolate, in clusters of 2 or 3, facing downward, often perpendicular to pedicel. Pedicel articulated; portion below articulation 1.5 mm long, dark purple; portion above articulation 13-17 mm long, surrounded by purplish white pericladium of perianth. Perianth, excluding pericladium, 6-6.5 mm long, 6-7 mm in diam., purplish, distally and adaxially darkly col-

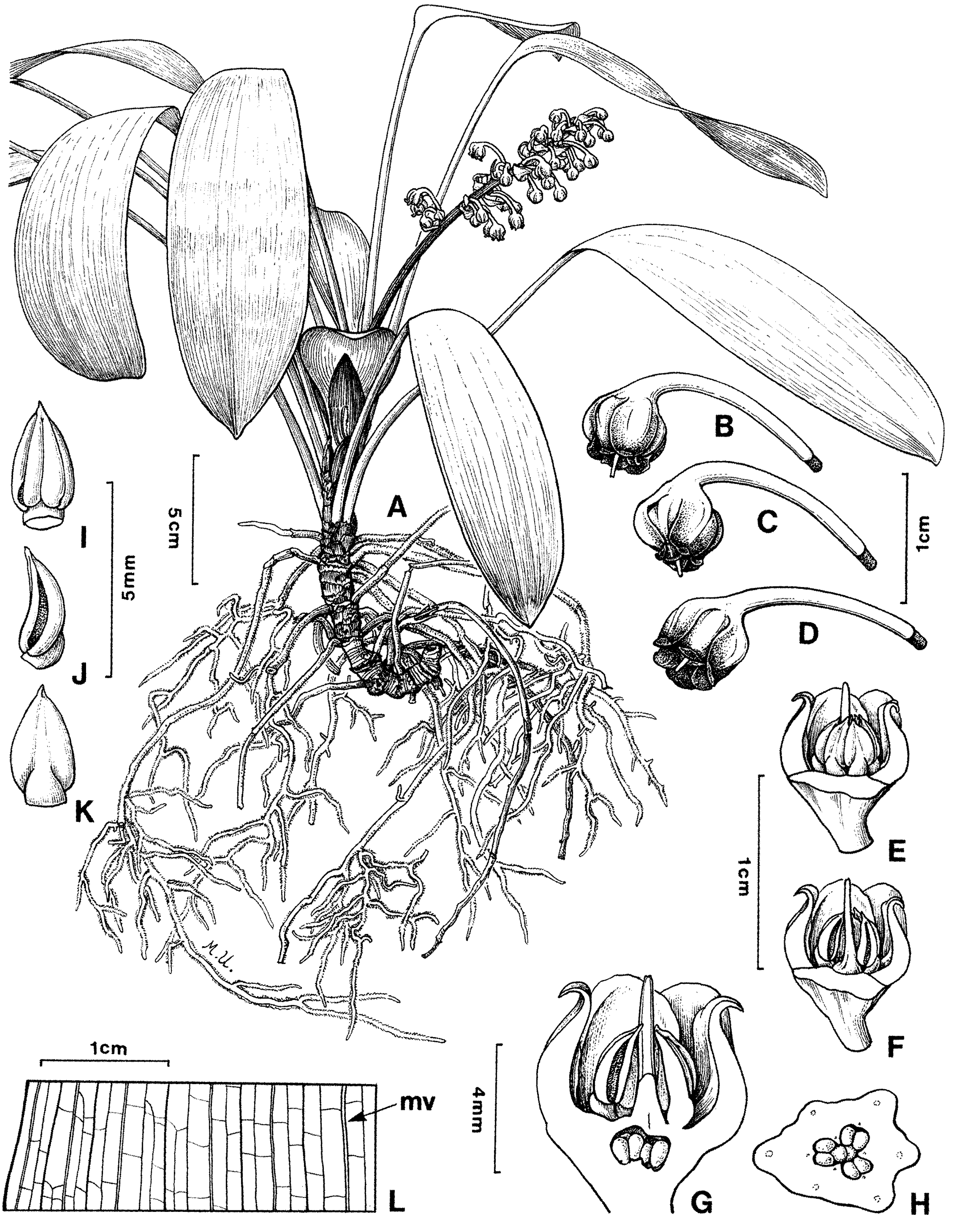

FIG. 1. *Ophiopogon ogisui* M. N. Tamura & J. M. Xu. A, Habit. B-D, Flowers and pedicels. E-G, Flowers: E, half of perianth removed; F, two stamens plus half of perianth removed; G, longitudinal section. H, Ovary: cross section. I-K, Stamens: I, adaxial view; J, lateral view; K, abaxial view. L, Foliage leaf: abaxial surface with midvein (mv) (all *Mikinori Ogisu 250*).

ored, apex reflexed; lobes 6, oblong to elliptic, 4.5-5 mm long. Stamens 6; filaments compressed, 1-1.2 mm long, 0.8-0.9 mm broad, pale green; anthers ovoid, 1.7-2.2 mm long, cream, introrse. Ovary half inferior, 1-locular; ovules 7-9, 1 mm long, 0.6-0.8 mm in diam., white, basal. Style 1, 5 mm long, slender, white, exceeding perianth by 1 mm at maturity. Anthesis November.

Distribution. *Ophiopogon ogisui* has so far been found only at the type locality.

Habitat. Shaded or semi shaded sites under broadleaved shrubs; in shallow soils on sloping limestone rocks.

Note. Although Conran & Tamura (1998) and Chen & Tamura (2000) described the ovary of *Ophiopogon* as 3-locular, the ovary of this species is 1-locular.

We extend our cordial gratitude to Professors De-zhi Fu and Hai-ning Qin of the Institute of Botany, Academia Sinica, Beijing, for their encouragement and support of this work. Our sincere thanks are due to Mr. Mikinori Ogisu for discussions. Thanks are also due to Mr. Masayoshi Umebayashi for his drawings.

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Received January 19, 2007; accepted March 13, 2007